

## PEER REVIEW HISTORY

BMJ Open publishes all reviews undertaken for accepted manuscripts. Reviewers are asked to complete a checklist review form (<http://bmjopen.bmj.com/site/about/resources/checklist.pdf>) and are provided with free text boxes to elaborate on their assessment. These free text comments are reproduced below.

### ARTICLE DETAILS

<b>TITLE (PROVISIONAL)</b>	The role of clothing on participation of persons with a physical disability: a scoping review protocol
<b>AUTHORS</b>	Esmail, Alida; Poncet, Frederique; Rochette, Annie; Auger, Claudine; Billebaud, Christophe; De Guise, Éline; Ducharme, Isabelle; Kehayia, Eva; Labbé, Delphine; Dahan-Oliel, Noémi; Lessard, Isabelle; Vermeersch, Olivier; Swaine, Bonnie

### VERSION 1 – REVIEW

<b>REVIEWER</b>	Allison Kabel Towson University, College of Health Professions U.S.A.
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	14-Nov-2017

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	This review of literature on clothing and social participation for people with disabilities will make an important contribution to the social and health sciences as well as the design fields. I eagerly anticipate the outcome of this proposed project.
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<b>REVIEWER</b>	Gretchen A. Good Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	05-Dec-2017

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	<p>A very worthwhile project is proposed with a plan for robust processes for selection of studies and scoping and review. I appreciate the clear writing and the plan to utilise the ICF, which is a model designed to bridge the gap between Medical and Social models of Disability. It is commendable that authors can review work in both French and English. I look forward to reading the finished review and hope you will consider the following points as you move forward.</p> <p>1. Please consider including a Social Model of Disability lens for your review and include studies from the discipline of Disability Studies. For example, Lamb, J. M. (2001). Disability and the social importance of appearance. Clothing and Textiles Research Journal, 19(3), 134-143. The topic you are exploring could also include such social concepts as clothing and disability and discrimination, self-esteem, fashion and appearance.</p> <p>With the inclusion of a Social Model of Disability perspective, some subtle changes in language could ensure your study would be using current preferred language related to disability and have relevance to disabled people and allies as well as to those with a more medicalized perspective of disability. A Social Model perspective</p>
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	<p>could be important to your review as the Social Model views disability as barriers to participation and barriers to inclusion in a community.</p> <p>2. Please consider using currently preferred language related to disability, for example, in the abstract and throughout the manuscript, “someone with a physical impairment” is preferred, (rather than someone with a physical disability), as according to the Social Model of Disability, people may have impairments, but disability is socially imposed.</p> <p>3. Also in the abstract you explain that you aim to understand the role of clothing on participation of individuals. Could you elaborate on what types of participation you are interested in? (Social, Educational, Recreational, Community, etc.).</p> <p>4. The use of the ICF in your research is appropriate, and as the ICF is an attempt to amalgamate the Medical and Social Models of Disability, this further justifies the idea of consideration of a Social Model lens for your study. I do hope that you will also discuss some of the current concerns and shortcomings about the ICF. For example, there are concerns that the ICF focuses on classification of individuals, rather than on environments and attitudes.</p> <p>5. Also within the abstract you mention that your work will be presented in a co-constructed format with an expert consultation group. I would recommend that you ensure that your expert consultation group includes a significant proportion of experts who are also disabled persons. It is essential that disability related research should include expert disabled consultants throughout the process.</p> <p>6. In line 27, page 7, please consider using another term other than the medicalised term “patient”. Perhaps you could use the term “consumer”.</p> <p>7. In the introduction (line 28 page 7) you talk about “managing the imitations of persons with a disability”. Could this be conceptualised to include concepts of improving participation by enhancing acceptance, changing attitudes, eliminating barriers? Disabled people may want to manage limitations but would certainly like to be accepted, be able to participate and be included.</p> <p>8. On line 37-38 (page 7) of the introduction you state that “the influential role clothing can have is not trivial...”. This could be stated more emphatically by saying it is “significant”</p> <p>9. And again, (line 32, page 8) consider using the currently preferred language of disability and refer to “people with impairments” or “disabled people”. (People have impairments but are disabled by the environment).</p> <p>10. Page 8 line 41 “is” should be “and”</p> <p>11. Page 10 line 50. It would be useful to know why you chose to target individuals aged 14 and over. Could you justify this?</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to review this manuscript.</p>
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## VERSION 1 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Dear Reviewers,

Thank you very much for your review of our manuscript “The role of clothing on participation of persons with a physical disability: a scoping review protocol” to be considered for publishing in BMJ Open. We found your comments very pertinent and have made some minor revisions to the manuscript as a result. Please find below our responses to each of your points.

1. Please consider including a Social Model of Disability lens for your review and include studies from the discipline of Disability Studies. For example, Lamb, J. M. (2001). Disability and the social importance of appearance. *Clothing and Textiles Research Journal*, 19(3), 134-143. The topic you are exploring could also include such social concepts as clothing and disability and discrimination, self-esteem, fashion and appearance.

With the inclusion of a Social Model of Disability perspective, some subtle changes in language could ensure your study would be using current preferred language related to disability and have relevance to disabled people and allies as well as to those with a more medicalized perspective of disability. A Social Model perspective could be important to your review as the Social Model views disability as barriers to participation and barriers to inclusion in a community.

RESPONSE: Thank you for bringing to our attention the Social Model of Disability and the Lamb (2001) reference. Since we are still at the early stages of the scoping review, we are working closely with the ICF as a primary framework. We certainly agree with the view that disability can be caused by the way society is organised and we will explore this further as we learn more about this topic throughout the iterative scoping review process. Targeted journals, such as *Clothing and Textiles Research Journal*, and reference lists will be hand searched for articles such as Lamb (2001), which may not be retrieved through the databases we have chosen. To better represent our intentions we have added a sentence at the end of the Conceptual Framework paragraph that reads, "Consideration will also be given to other models or frameworks (e.g. Social Model of Disability) as deemed appropriate".

2. Please consider using currently preferred language related to disability, for example, in the abstract and throughout the manuscript, "someone with a physical impairment" is preferred, (rather than someone with a physical disability), as according to the Social Model of Disability, people may have impairments, but disability is socially imposed.

RESPONSE: Given the WHO's definition of disability used in the manuscript that defines disability as an umbrella term including impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions, we feel it would be too restrictive to use 'persons with a physical impairment' throughout the manuscript. Indeed, inappropriate/inadequate clothing can also limit an individual's activities and restrict his or her participation.

3. Also in the abstract you explain that you aim to understand the role of clothing on participation of individuals. Could you elaborate on what types of participation you are interested in? (Social, Educational, Recreational, Community, etc.).

RESPONSE: The sentence in the abstract now reads "To achieve this, a scoping review will be performed with the aim of understanding the role of clothing on participation (i.e. at home, in the community, etc.) of individuals with a physical disability. This paper presents the protocol and procedure to be adopted".

4. The use of the ICF in your research is appropriate, and as the ICF is an attempt to amalgamate the Medical and Social Models of Disability, this further justifies the idea of consideration of a Social Model lens for your study. I do hope that you will also discuss some of the current concerns and shortcomings about the ICF. For example, there are concerns that the ICF focuses on classification of individuals, rather than on environments and attitudes.

RESPONSE: We also agree that the use of the ICF is appropriate and clarify that it will be the primary framework used. However, we will definitely explain in more detail in the scoping review itself the shortcomings in its use and in its ability (or inability) to help us answer our research question.

5. Also within the abstract you mention that your work will be presented in a co-constructed format with an expert consultation group. I would recommend that you ensure that your expert consultation group includes a significant proportion of experts who are also disabled persons. It is essential that disability related research should include expert disabled consultants throughout the process.

RESPONSE: This is a very good suggestion. It is important to note that this scoping review is the first step of a larger study for which we will be conducting 10-15 interviews with people with a physical disability and other key informants. For logistical reasons, right now we can only confirm that one person with a disability will participate in the consultation group during the last step of the scoping review. However, later in the larger project, results from the scoping review and interviews will be triangulated in order to have a true appreciation of the phenomenon under study. Therefore, overall, a larger representation from persons with various types of impairments will be sought.

6. In line 27, page 7, please consider using another term other than the medicalised term “patient”. Perhaps you could use the term “consumer”.

RESPONSE: We have removed the reference to ‘patient’. The sentence now reads “In parallel to this emerging technological field, ideas within rehabilitation have also advanced whereby service providers and service users can play equally important roles in finding solutions or methods for persons with a disability to experience a more positive day-to-day life”.

7. In the introduction (line 28 page 7) you talk about “managing the limitations of persons with a disability”. Could this be conceptualised to include concepts of improving participation by enhancing acceptance, changing attitudes, eliminating barriers? Disabled people may want to manage limitations but would certainly like to be accepted, be able to participate and be included.

RESPONSE: The sentences have been modified to read “In parallel to this emerging technological field, ideas within rehabilitation have also advanced whereby service providers and service users can play equally important roles in finding solutions or methods for persons with a disability to experience a more positive day-to-day life. Furthermore, society also has a role in optimizing social inclusion and participation for people with a physical disability (e.g. changing attitudes, eliminating barriers, enhancing acceptance)”.

8. On line 37-38 (page 7) of the introduction you state that “the influential role clothing can have is not trivial....”. This could be stated more emphatically by saying it is “significant”.

RESPONSE: The sentence has been modified and now reads, “With this understanding, the influential role clothing can have is significant in the life of someone with a disability”. The same modification has been made to the abstract.

9. And again, (line 32, page 8) consider using the currently preferred language of disability and refer to “people with impairments” or “disabled people”. (People have impairments but are disabled by the environment).

RESPONSE: Although we agree with the social model perspective, as mentioned before, given our WHO definition of disability, we chose to use person-first language and refer to people as ‘persons with a physical disability’

10. Page 8 line 41 “is” should be “and”

RESPONSE: Fixed. The sentence now reads, “The aim of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) published by the WHO in 2001 is to provide a unified and

standard language and framework, and to describe health and health-related states such as education and labour”.

11. Page 10 line 50. It would be useful to know why you chose to target individuals aged 14 and over. Could you justify this?

RESPONSE: The text has been modified to clarify this decision. The sentences now read, “. Clothing choices and dressing of younger children may also involve parents, which could be subject for another review. Therefore, our study targets individuals 14 years and older and literature involving children (<14 years) will be omitted. This decision was also made for logistical reasons and to maintain consistency across all components of a larger project (involving interviews) that includes this scoping review”.

Thank you again for your time and for your review. We believe the comments help improve the manuscript. We look forward to progressing further in the steps of the scoping review itself and sharing the results of our study in the near future.

Sincerely,

Alida Esmail

## VERSION 2 – REVIEW

<b>REVIEWER</b>	Gretchen Good Massey University New Zealand
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	08-Jan-2018

<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	<p>Thank you again for the opportunity to review the revised version of the Manuscript, The role of clothing on participation of persons with a physical disability: a scoping review protocol. I eagerly look forward to reading the completed scoping project and any further research arising from this. I think this is an excellent endeavour and commend the researchers for their development of this project. I would ask the authors to consider the following points.</p> <p>1. Please consider including disability and disability studies as domains from which to search for relevant literature, alongside the other domains such as rehabilitation. Although rehabilitation is certainly an appropriate area to investigate, this may only investigate the needs of those with recent impairments. Including disability and disability studies domains will allow you to explore the needs of those with congenital and long term disabilities or impairments as well as the needs of those with recent onset of disability.</p> <p>2. It is still not clear why the age of 14 was chosen as a cut off age for a limitation of studies that will be chosen for review. As the authors have mentioned, this decision was made for logistical reasons related to future interviews. Is 14 an age at which parental consent is not required for participation in research interviews? This would explain the decision about the age for inclusion.</p> <p>3. I do encourage the authors to seek out professional disabled partners for involvement in this research. Any research related to disability should involve disabled persons in every aspect of the research. And I also encourage the authors to consult with and</p>
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	<p>disseminate resulting research to Disabled Persons Organisations. "In many European countries there is a lack of academic research on disability equality issues, where traditional or medical views of disability are often maintained by academics and influence research agendas. Closer partnerships with disabled people's organisations could increase the knowledge and commitment of academic researchers towards social and human rights models of disability. Mutual collaboration is useful for disabled people, but this involvement should be between equal partners. Disabled people and their civil society organisations must be involved from the beginning of the research process, particularly in shaping the research agenda and identifying research needs in the real world. This would also increase the social relevance of academic research".. (Priestly et al. 2016, p. 743).</p> <p>Priestly, M. Waddington, L. &amp; Bessozi, C. (2010). Towards an agenda for disability research in Europe: learning from disabled people's organisations. <i>Disability &amp; Society</i>, 25, (6) pp 731-746.</p>
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## VERSION 2 – AUTHOR RESPONSE

Dear Reviewers,

Thank you again for your review of our manuscript "The role of clothing on participation of persons with a physical disability: a scoping review protocol" to be considered for publication in BMJ Open. Please find below our responses to each of your points.

1. Please consider including disability and disability studies as domains from which to search for relevant literature, alongside the other domains such as rehabilitation. Although rehabilitation is certainly an appropriate area to investigate, this may only investigate the needs of those with recent impairments. Including disability and disability studies domains will allow you to explore the needs of those with congenital and long term disabilities or impairments as well as the needs of those with recent onset of disability.

RESPONSE: Certainly, we agree that disability and disability studies are important domains for the literature search. As noted in Step Two of the protocol, "disability" (and multiple variations of this word) will be used in the research strategies when searching the initial databases.

2. It is still not clear why the age of 14 was chosen as a cut off age for a limitation of studies that will be chosen for review. As the authors have mentioned, this decision was made for logistical reasons related to future interviews. Is 14 an age at which parental consent is not required for participation in research interviews? This would explain the decision about the age for inclusion.

RESPONSE: Yes, 14 is the age in Quebec, Canada at which an individual can give consent to participate in research, if it involves a minimal health risk. In fact, the ethics committee that evaluated our research deemed participation in an interview about how clothing influences participation as having minimal risk for youth aged 14-17 years. The sentence has been clarified and now reads "This decision was also made for logistical reasons and to maintain consistency in the age of subjects across all components of a larger project (which involves interviews where individuals aged 14 and older may consent to participate). This scoping review is the first and an essential part of the larger project."

3. I do encourage the authors to seek out professional disabled partners for involvement in this research. Any research related to disability should involve disabled persons in every aspect of the

research. And I also encourage the authors to consult with and disseminate resulting research to Disabled Persons Organisations.

"In many European countries there is a lack of academic research on disability equality issues, where traditional or medical views of disability are often maintained by academics and influence research agendas. Closer partnerships with disabled people's organisations could increase the knowledge and commitment of academic researchers towards social and human rights models of disability. Mutual collaboration is useful for disabled people, but this involvement should be between equal partners. Disabled people and their civil society organisations must be involved from the beginning of the research process, particularly in shaping the research agenda and identifying research needs in the real world. This would also increase the social relevance of academic research".. (Priestly et al. 2016, p. 743).

Priestly, M. Waddington, L. & Bessozi, C. (2010). Towards an agenda for disability research in Europe: learning from disabled people's organisations. *Disability & Society*, 25, (6) pp 731-746.

RESPONSE: We want to reassure the reviewer that all attempts will be made to include a large number of disabled persons in the consultation process (Step Six). With regards to dissemination, since this research was funded in part by the Office des personnes handicapées du Québec (a governmental organization for disabled persons), we are required to provide them with a report of the research findings. This report will be made available on their public website.

Thank you again for your time and for your review. We look forward to progressing further in the steps of the scoping review itself and sharing the results of our study in the near future.

Sincerely,

Alida Esmail

### VERSION 3 – REVIEW

<b>REVIEWER</b>	Gretchen Good Massey University New Zealand
<b>REVIEW RETURNED</b>	08-Feb-2018
<b>GENERAL COMMENTS</b>	This project looks to be very interesting and is well explained in the protocol. I look forward to reading future papers about the findings. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute by reviewing the protocol.